

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AGR-20 EB-11 COME-00 OIC-04

AID-20 DRC-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 RSC-01 L-03

HEW-08 /155 W

----- 046311

P R 061350Z NOV 73

FM AMCONSUL IZMIR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1096

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS IZMIR 484

ROME FOR FODAG

DEPT PASS KIGER, USDA/FAS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, FAO, ECON

SUBJECT: FAO AD HOC CONSULTATION ON TOBACCO

REF: STATE 213147

1. CONFERENCE PROCEEDING SMOOTHLY WITH AUSTRIA, BRAZIL, BULGARIA, CANADA, CUBA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, FRANCE, HUNGARY, IRAN, ITALY, JAPAN, KOREA, SPAIN, THAILAND, TURKEY, UGANDA, UK, US, YUGOSLAVIA PARTICIPATING. DELEGATION'S CURRENT EVALUATION THAT MAJORITY DO NOT FAVOR ESTABLISHING WORKING GROUP. BUT MAJORITY THOUGHT TO FEEL FAO SHOULD HAVE SOME FOCUS

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ON TOBACCO. ONLY WEST GERMANY IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT WITH US POSITION AND, AS NEW UN MEMBERS, THEY FEEL SOME PRESSURE TO BE POSITIVE.

2. CONFERENCE OFFICERS ARE: CHAIRMAN, TURKEY; VICE CHAIRMEN, JAPAN AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

3. ON NOV 5 DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REP, VITON, GAVE VERY BALANCED AND LARGELY NEUTRAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CONFERENCE RE RANGE OF POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS
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TO CCP ON FURTHER FAO ACTION. AT CLOSING NOV 6 SESSION,

CHAIRMAN REMINDED DELEGATES OF NEED TO RECOMMEND TO CCP NECESSARY FOLLOW UP. HE STATED THERE WERE THREE ALTERNATIVES--STUDY GROUP, AD HOC, OR JUST STOP WITH THIS MEETING. HE STATED NO ONE WISHES TO JUST STOP AND CONFERENCE WOULD DISCUSS QUESTION UNDER AGENDA ITEM EIGHT. CONFERENCE HAD JUST FINISHED DISCUSSION AGENDA ITEM FIVE AND VITON POINTED OUT ADDITIONAL ALTERNATIVE OF TECHNICAL SUB-GROUP WHICH COULD CARRY OUT INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORK AND CONSULTATIONS ON RESIDUES. VITON NOTED THAT SOME INACTIVE STUDY GROUPS HAVE VERY ACTIVE TECHNICAL

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SUB-GROUPS. HE STRESSED THAT HIS STATEMENT DID NOT IMPLY FAO WOULD APPROVE.

4. UK REACTED FAVORABLY TO VITON SUGGESTION. AUSTRIAN DELEGATE (CORESTA VICE CHAIRMAN) STRESSED THAT FAO MIGHT COORDINATE TOBACCO PRODUCTION RESEARCH EFFORTS BUT THAT FAO DEALT ONLY WITH AGRICULTURE AND TOBACCO PROCESSING WAS OUT OF THEIR SCOPE. UK DELEGATE INFORMED US DELEGATE THAT TECHNICAL SUB-GROUP MIGHT BE A HARMLESS COMPROMISE AND PREVENT WEST GERMANY FROM MOVING TOO FAST ON RESIDUES. HE OBSERVED THAT TECHNICAL SUB-GROUP COULD BE AD HOC. WEST GERMAN DELEGATE INFORMED US DELEGATE THAT HE OPPOSED TECHNICAL SUB-GROUP.

5. US DELEGATE WILL INFORM VITON AND OTHER DELEGATIONS US AGAINST TECHNICAL SUB-GROUP AFTERNOON NOV 7 UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF DELEGATE COULD SUPPORT OPPOSITION WITH STATEMENT PERHAPS ALONG LINES THAT INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONSULTATIONS WILL HAVE LITTLE, IF ANY, EFFECT ON

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RESIDUE TOLERANCES ESTABLISHED IN US.

SMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, TOBACCO, COMMITTEES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973IZMIR00484
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: IZMIR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731153/aaaabmpe.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 213147
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23-Jan-2002 by joneskg0>; APPROVED <12 MAR 2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FAO AD HOC CONSULTATION ON TOBACCO
TAGS: AORG, ECON, FAO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005